

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-29. (Cancelled)

30. (New) A method for enabling electronic communications, comprising:

receiving, at a primary communications system, a request to access a communications network that is directed to the primary communication system, wherein the request is issued by an online identity operating a client system;

processing the request at the primary communication system;

determining a geographic location associated with at least one of the online identity and the client system;

identifying, based on the determined geographic location, a secondary communications system that is more geographically proximate to the geographic location than the primary communications system; and

enabling configuration of the client system to use the secondary communications system as an access point to the communications network.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein processing the request further comprises:

authenticating the online identity or the client system at the primary communications system.

32. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising enabling configuration of the client system to direct data communications, which are from the client system and subsequent to access by the client system, to the secondary communications system.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein access to the communications network is granted to the client system by the primary communications system.

34. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein access to the communications network is granted to the client system by the secondary communications system.

35. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising encapsulating data communications in a tunneling protocol at the secondary communications system.

36. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising determining whether responses to data communications can be satisfied by electronic data stored in a cache at the secondary communications system.

37. (New) The method of claim 32, further comprising performing filtering of data communications at the secondary communications system.

38. (New) The method of claim 37, wherein the filtering is performed according to contents filtering.

39. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the primary communications system is an online access provider.

40. (New) A method for enabling electronic communications at a client system, comprising:

submitting a request to access a communications network that is directed to a primary communications system, wherein the request is issued by an online identity operating the client system;

receiving from the primary communications system, an indication of a secondary communications system that is more geographically proximate to the geographic location of the client system than the primary communications system;

reconfiguring the client system to submit future access requests to the secondary communications system based on the indication received; and

submitting future access requests from the client system to the secondary communications system.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, further comprising reconfiguring the client system to direct communications, which are subsequent to access from the client system, to the secondary communications system.

42. (New) A method for enabling electronic communications at a secondary communications system that is more geographically proximate to a geographic location of a client system than a primary communications system, comprising:

receiving an indication from a primary communications system to process access requests that are issued by an online identity operating a client system, where the access requests are configured to enable access to a communications network; and

based on the indication received, reconfiguring the secondary communications system to process access requests from the client system to the secondary communications system.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, further comprising processing access requests at the secondary communications system.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein processing access requests further comprises:

authenticating the online identity or the client system at the primary communications system.

45. (New) The method of claim 43, further comprising receiving data communications, subsequent to access by the client system to the secondary communications system.

46. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein access to the communications network is granted to the client system by the secondary communications system.

47. (New) The method of claim 45, further comprising encapsulating data communications in a tunneling protocol at the secondary communications system.

48. (New) The method of claim 45, further comprising determining whether responses to data communications can be satisfied by electronic data stored in a cache at the secondary communications system.

49. (New) The method of claim 45, further comprising performing filtering of data communications at the secondary communications system.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the filtering is performed according to contents filtering.